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State of New Mexico

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July 14, 2000

Title VI Guidance Comments U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Civil Rights (1201A) 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Dear EPA:

RE: Guidance Regarding Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Bernalillo County has received information from the US Environmental Protection Agency about Title VI and recipient guidance. The Department of Justice coordinates the Title VI work and issued regulations requiring federal agencies to publish Title VI guidelines for program financial assistance. The County has previously received requests for information from the Department of Justice on its policies regarding Title VI. As a result, Bernalillo County has been proactive in ensuring full Title VI compliance. All federal grants applied for and received by Bernalillo County are administered with the provisions of Title VI. Also, the County has published "Bernalillo County Employment Relations Rules & Regulations" and these regulations address equal employment opportunity.

The information contained in the *Draft Recipient Guidance* will be useful for considering alternative approaches or activities the County may use when utilizing federal, state, or county funds. With particular regard to the Brownfields Program administered by the Environmental Protection Agency, the County will inform staff about the Web site address for obtaining information about Title VI.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus P. Lucero

Division Director Community Services

cc:

Juan R. Vigil, County Manager

Richard Brusuelas, Director, County Environmental Health Renetta Torres, County Human Resources Department

